

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Member – Policy and Resources
Date:	26 January 2011
Title:	Project Appraisal: Redevelopment of Marchwood Household Waste Recycling Centre
Reference:	2287
Report From:	Director of Environment

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1. The decision: **(PROPOSED)**

- (a) That the Project Appraisal to carry out works to expand and improve the existing Household Waste Recycling Centre located off Normandy Way, Marchwood, at an estimated cost of £1.35 million, be approved.
- (b) That it be considered which redevelopment option should be taken forward from a choice of either:
 - (i) Option1: provision of a new split-level site; or
 - (ii) Option 2: provision of an extended single-level site (comprising Options 2a or 2b).
- (c) That the necessary planning application be made to develop land adjacent to the existing site and the proposed redevelopment works be carried out on the granting of a satisfactory planning permission.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. The existing Marchwood household waste recycling centre (HWRC) is a large 'single-level' site with significant traffic congestion issues. This is due to the site becoming very busy during peak periods which results in queues of vehicles backing up along the HWRC access road and out onto Normandy Way, causing inconvenience to other road users and a potential road safety hazard.
- 2.2. Being a single-level site, the waste containers have to be accessed via metal steps. These steps are a significant hazard to users, especially in wet or icy conditions and when bulky items are being carried, and contravene Health and Safety Executive (HSE) guidance on HWRC design.

2.3. The single-level design also means that the site sometimes has to be temporarily closed for up to 15 minutes to ensure the safety of the public when certain waste containers are being serviced. Queues inevitably form on the highway outside the site at these times as customers wait to gain access to the HWRC. This is somewhat alleviated at Marchwood HWRC due its proximity to the Veolia Environmental Services temporary Waste Transfer Station. This means some of the waste containers can be serviced from the rear of the HWRC so that the public can continue to use other parts of the site during bin servicing.

2.4. Redevelopment of the Marchwood HWRC will ensure that:

- (i) queuing on Normandy Way is eliminated by increasing the on-site stacking capacity, and additional waste storage areas;
- (ii) operational efficiency of the site is improved by the provision of extra waste containers;
- (iii) as a split-level site the health and safety hazard of the public using stairs to access the waste containers is removed; and
- (iv) as a split-level site the site will no longer have to temporarily close for bin servicing, leading to lesser queuing at the site. This will also increase customer throughput on the site as customers can continue to fully use it whilst bin servicing is in operation.

2.5. The decision supports the following aim of the County Council's Corporate Strategy: Enhancing our quality of place. It also supports Aim 2 of the Environment Department Service Aims: Helping everyone to waste less and Aim 3 of the Local Transport Plan 2006-11 to 'reduce the impact and effect of congestion'.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. The option not to redevelop the existing HWRC has been considered and rejected. Redeveloping the site will enable the key objectives of improving health and safety at the site, reducing traffic congestion, expanding the operational area and increasing recycling performance to be achieved.

3.2. A third single-level design, with raised gantries to simulate a split-level site with ramps for the public to access the bins, has been considered and rejected. The length of ramp required to achieve an appropriate gradient cannot be achieved with the space available for redevelopment.

3.3. A fourth single-level design utilising automated packer bins to reduce the need for steps has been considered and rejected. The increased cost of bins, increased maintenance and the potential health and safety concerns added to the reduced throughput make this option undeliverable.

3.4. The option to relocate the Marchwood HWRC to provide a new purpose-built 'split-level' facility has been considered and rejected. A recent site search concluded that no suitable and available land was identified. However, the County Council owns the land on which the existing HWRC is located and the land adjacent to it, which is proposed to be used for this redevelopment.

4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: none.

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: none.

5. Dispensation granted by the Standards Committee: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

Approved by: -----	Date: 26 January 2011
Executive Member for Policy and Resources Councillor T K Thornber CBE	